

Dear Addlestone Parents,

As concerns about the potential spread of Coronavirus rise, we feel it is important to let you know how Addlestone is responding.

First, please note that, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the risk of contracting Coronavirus is currently low in the United States and there are no confirmed cases currently in South Carolina. For more information about Coronavirus, how it spreads, symptoms, and prevention, please visit the CDC website by clicking here.

Addlestone is a member of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) and we are in contact with SCISA leadership for their advice on appropriate responses. SCISA is hosting a webinar for school administrators concerning the Coronavirus in the coming week and members of our Administrative team will be participating.

In the interim, we advise families to continue to follow best practices concerning the spread of communicable diseases including proper handwashing and disinfecting of frequently used surfaces such as doorknobs, faucets, countertops, etc. As with all communicable diseases, if your child should display symptoms of Coronavirus which, according to the CDC, include fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath, our school policy is that students remain home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours or have a note from their treating physician that they are clear to return to school.

Jessica Bennett, our Facilities Manager, has spoken with our cleaning crew and Ms. Doretha has begun to increase the frequency of disinfecting common surfaces such as door handles, desks, countertops, drinking fountains, etc. We will continue to be vigilant with our cleaning in order to maintain a healthy learning environment for our students.

Concerns about student trips, especially those over-seas, will be assessed as more information becomes available. We will continue monitoring the situation and will follow guidelines from the CDC, state, and local officials.

We will be addressing our response on a Board level at our next Board meeting on Wednesday, March 4th. If you have concerns that you would like to be addressed at this meeting concerning the Coronavirus, please contact Marcie Rosenberg, Board Chair, at boardchair@addlestone.org.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will let you know if anything changes due to advisement from the CDC, state, or local officials. The health and safety of our students and staff are, as always, our first priority.

Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Elisha Paul

P.S. - Click <u>here</u> for a comic that provides information for children to help them understand the Coronavirus in an easy, non-threatening way.